

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-3, 5, 6 and 8-10 and cancel claims 4 and 11-13 without prejudice or disclosure as set forth below:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A corneal surgery apparatus for correcting a refractive error by ablating corneal tissue of a patient's eye with a laser beam comprising:

(a) ~~laser irradiation~~ means for irradiating the laser beam onto a cornea of the patient's eye;

storage means for storing correction patterns on a plurality of kinds of contact lenses, each correction pattern having a different far vision and near vision zone pattern; and

(b) ~~input calculation~~ means for ~~inputting optical characteristics~~ retrieving ~~correction pattern~~ data on a contact lens for a trial use corresponding to data on prescription provided to the patient's eye; ~~and,~~

(c) ~~calculation~~ means for determining a correction pattern for the patient's eye based on the ~~inputted optical characteristics~~ retrieved correction pattern data and obtaining ablation control data based on the ~~obtained determined~~ correction pattern.

input new
US
retrieving means
(exp. de)

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The corneal surgery apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising ~~storage means for storing each optical characteristics data on each of a plurality of kinds of contact lenses;~~

~~wherein the input means comprises~~ means for inputting an identifier assigned to the contact lens, ~~and means for retrieving the optical characteristics~~ wherein the calculation means retrieves the correction pattern data stored in the storage means with reference to the inputted identifier.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The corneal surgery apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising ~~revising means for revising the inputted optical characteristics~~ retrieved correction pattern data ~~on the contact lens or data on the obtained determined~~ correction pattern,

wherein the calculation means obtains the ablation control data based on the revised data.

4. (CANCELED).

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The corneal surgery apparatus according to claim [[4]]1, further comprising display means for graphically displaying the ~~inputted data on the far vision zone and the near vision zone~~ retrieved correction pattern or the determined correction pattern.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A correction data determining method of correcting a refractive error by ablating corneal tissue of a patient's eye with a laser beam comprising:

(a) a process in which an ophthalmic examination of the patient's eye including a refractive power inspection is performed, and data on prescription provided to the patient's eye is obtained;

(b) a process in which a first contact lens ~~having first optical characteristics for providing the patient's eye with refractive power of a first correction pattern having a first far vision and near vision zone pattern, corresponding~~ which corresponds to the obtained data on prescription is prepared;

(c) a process in which the first contact lens is put on the patient's eye is subjected to for a trial use of the first contact lens and a result of the trial use is checked to determine whether the result is good or bad; and

(d) a process in which, if the trial use of the contact lens bears a good result, a correction pattern for the patient's eye is determined based on the first ~~optical characteristics~~ correction pattern, and if the trial use of the first contact lens bears a bad result, a second contact lens for providing the patient's eye with refractive power of a second correction pattern having a second far vision and near vision zone pattern, which is different from the first correction pattern, is put on the patient's eye is subjected to for a trial use of a contact lens different from the first contact lens, and a ~~the~~ correction pattern for the patient's eye is determined based on ~~optical characteristics~~ a correction pattern of a contact lens which bears a good result.

7. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The correction data determining method according to claim 6, wherein the contact lens includes a lens geared for a correction pattern in which ablation is carried out with a corneal surgery apparatus for ablating corneal tissue.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A corneal surgery apparatus for correcting a refractive error by ablating corneal tissue of the patient's eye with a laser beam comprising:

(a) an ablation unit which comprises a laser light source emitting a laser beam and an irradiation optical system for irradiating the emitted laser beam onto a cornea of the patient's eye;

a storage unit which stores correction patterns on a plurality of kinds of contact lenses, each correction pattern having a different far vision and near vision zone pattern; and

~~(b) an input~~ a calculation unit which inputs optical characteristics ~~retrieves correction pattern data on a contact lens for a trial use corresponding to data on prescription provided to the patient's eye; and,~~

~~(c) a calculation unit which determines a correction pattern for the patient's eye based on the inputted optical characteristics~~ retrieved correction pattern data and obtains ablation control data based on the obtained determined correction pattern.

9. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The corneal surgery apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the irradiation optical system includes a circular aperture of which opening diameter is changeable, a projecting lens which projects the aperture onto the cornea, a shifting unit which displaces a region to be irradiated with the laser beam from a center of an optical zone on the cornea, and a rotator which rotates the laser beam.

10. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The corneal surgery apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the irradiation optical system includes a beam restricting unit insertable in and removable from an optical path of the laser beam, the beam restricting unit having a semi-oval aperture which is tilted to a variable angle with respect to an optical axis of the irradiation optical system.

11. (CANCELED).

12. (CANCELED).

13. (CANCELED).